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SUBJECT Activities of Communists and Socialists
in Salzburg

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SUPPLEMENT

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1. In order to offset Communist plans for a Unity Party, Socialist leaders are planning the organization of a new bourgeois socialist Party. The chief advocates of this idea are Neumayer, Bürgermeister of Salzburg; Payerl, deputy Landeshauptmann; Vice-Chancellor Dr. Adolf Scharf; and other Socialist officials who foresee a strong swing to the left at the next election.
2. Leaders of the Socialist Party also report that Communist agents are hard at work, and that the Communist Party ranks are being purged of all bourgeois elements. The following Communists have already been removed from their posts, either because they are considered undesirable or as a measure to cover further activities:

Matzinger, provincial secretary of the Salzburg CP, has been demoted to district secretary.

Josef Schneider, publisher of the Salzburger Tagblatt, has been forced to resign because he refused to cooperate in the promotion of the new radical plan.

Franz Strasser, chairman of the Land Salzburg CP is being relieved of his functions.

3. Plans are in progress for the organization of a Communist Peasant Union which will form expert advisory peasant committees to offer technical and legal advice to all Communist peasants. One such Oesterreichischer Arbeitsbauernbund has its Provincial Agrarian Secretariat (Landesagrarsecretariat) on Miessthalerstrasse, Klagenfurt.
4. District peasant committees (Bezirksbauernkomitees) have already been appointed in the Russian Zone. Their assignment is to incite the small farmers against the large farmers, with the eventual object of making possible the expropriation of all lands exceeding 100 hectares. Members of this organization call themselves Arbeitsbauern (farm workers).

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Next Review Date: 2008

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